

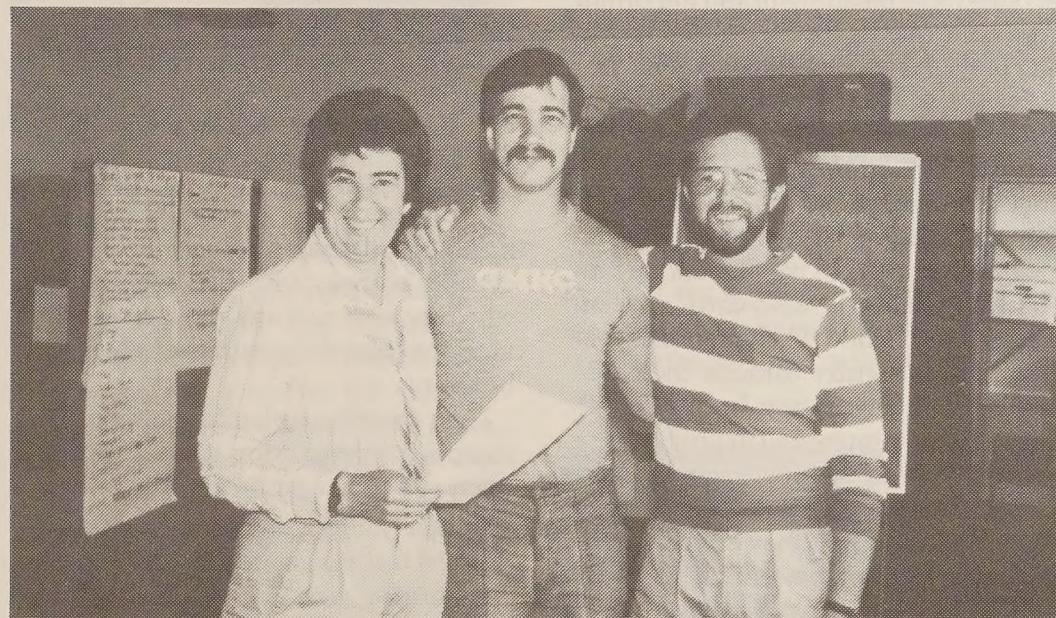


Continuity and Change, The Passage of Leadership

The gavel has never passed more smoothly from one President to the next than it did Friday evening, June 28th. The outgoing President, Leila Raim, in a mood of genuine affection and mutual respect, gracefully stepped down to allow Don Albert to begin his term as our new President. Leila's outstanding performance this past year was recognized by a standing ovation from the overflow crowd. Don chose as his subject for his installation sermon the topic of continuity. This was certainly

ty we must recognize the important element of change.

"That combination of continuity and change is present tonight within our own congregation. We are changing our leadership from one group to another. We mark that change by the passing of the Torah as a symbol of the continuity of traditions and teachings of our people. We are here tonight as Jews with a history of 5745 years. That continuity is, in part, due to the fact that we learn to adapt and change often



We have a Rabbi: Past-president Leila Raim, Rabbi Yoel Kahn and President Don Albert with the signed contract in hand.

an appropriate one for us as we moved into our eighth year as a synagogue and prepared for the 13th annual Gay Freedom Day Parade. His comments began with a discussion of the origins of Gay and Lesbian Pride Week.

"I feel a very personal link to the Stonewall riots of 1969 because I used to go to the Stonewall. In fact, I was there the first week that it opened. This gives me a sense of participation for the continuity of our movement as lesbian and gay people, but that same series of events evokes another feeling. The feeling of sadness and loss. I often went to the Stonewall with Steven, a friend of many years. He died from AIDS a little over a year ago. I suppose that within the concept of continu-

for our betterment but sometimes not.

"The Diaspora forced our ancestors to deal with change. Through that process we have prospered as a people. The pre-Inquisition richness of life in Spain or Southern France or Renaissance Jewish life in Florence and Venice are but a few high points in the continuity of positive Jewish experience. We are all too familiar, however, with the oppression felt by our people throughout history as well as in our own time. Through all of these experiences there has been created a diversity of Jewish

(Continued on page 12)

Operation Moses, The Jewish Federation, And Us

On Friday August 16th, after services, there will be a brief film on "Operation Moses" the dramatic rescue of the Ethiopian Jews from the Sudanese refugee camps. Our Congregation has worked actively on behalf of these once-forgotten members of our people, and we were thrilled when we learned last fall that thousands had been secretly airlifted from Africa to Israel.

Produced by the Jewish National Federation, the film is well worth seeing. But there is more to it than that. The film will be introduced by Ron Kaufman, President of the Jewish Federation of the Bay Area—and therein lies a tale.

Soon after Sha'ar Zahav was founded in 1977, members of the Congregation asked to be involved in the Federation telethon, the annual fundraiser. We knew of the tremendous work the Federation does, and we wanted to contribute. But when we volunteered, we were told, in essence—"Thanks but no thanks. Don't call us, we'll call you."

Never ones to take "no" for an answer, we persisted. We did participate in the telethon that year. And the next. And the year after that. But a funny thing happened. When all of the congregations and other Jewish organizations who helped were publicly thanked in the Jewish Bulletin, we were left out. No one seemed to know why.

We spoke with a member of the Federation staff and were told the reason. The Orthodox community might object if they learned of our involvement. Had the Orthodox community, or any representative of that community, ever said they would object? No, but they might.

So we went to the leadership of the Federation at that time, George Frankenstein and Sheldon Wolfe. They had no idea we were being excluded in this manner, and they immediately put a stop to it. From that moment, we were made to feel welcome

(Continued on page 4)

New Members

The Membership Committee is pleased to announce that our Congregation gained three new members in July. A warm welcome to new members:

Jay Cohen
Neil Hart
Jeff Mendelsohn

New members are welcomed and honored at Friday night services on the last Friday of the month. By making them feel a part of our family, we can all help to show our new members that they have a valuable place at Sha'ar Zahav.

The Jewish Gaily Forward is published 12 times annually by Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, 220 Danvers at Caselli, San Francisco, California 94114, (415) 861-6932. Permission to reproduce non-copyrighted material is freely given, credit would be appreciated.

Members of the Congregation receive *The Forward*. For a donation of \$10/year, nonmembers will receive *The Forward*.

All newsletter copy should be typed, double-spaced and is due no later than the date of the Va'ad meeting. It should be sent to the Synagogue office, marked to the attention of *The Forward*.

Members of the Newsletter Committee are Bob Goldware, Stephanie Hannaford, Alex Ingersoll and Irene O'Gus (editorial and production); Frank Hyman, Ben Schalit, Barry Siegel, Sam Thal, Eli Weinstein and Alita Rosenfeld (distribution). *The Forward* is typeset by Artspec Imaging Ltd.

Display Ads are \$15 per column inch for non-members and \$10 per column inch for members, with a frequency discount of 10% for six or more issues. Ads should be camera ready; any ads that require typesetting, camera and/or artwork will be subject to a one-time production charge.

Classified Ads are \$5.00 for up to 20 words, plus \$1.00 for each 10 additional words.

Payment must accompany ad and should be sent to Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, 220 Danvers at Caselli, San Francisco, California 94114, marked attention *Forward* advertising. The advertising deadline is the 10th of the month. *The Forward* reserves the right to reject any ad for reasons of taste. For more information on advertising rates and charges, call the Synagogue Office at 861-6932.

President's Column

In the last issue of *The Forward* I wrote about the search for a Treasurer. I'm pleased to report that I recommended, and the Va'ad approved, Betty Kalis as our new Treasurer. Betty has been an active member of the Congregation for a number of years. Recently, she has been involved in the Women's Havurah, Building Committee, Finance Committee as well as attending Va'ad meetings.

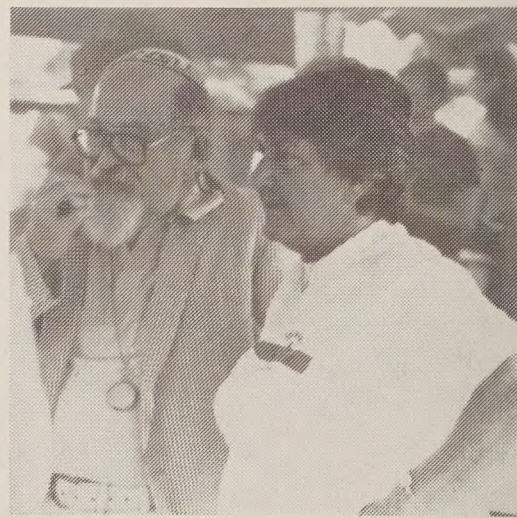
By now all of our members should have received Betty's letter about dues renewal. I urge each of you to look at the range of programs, activities and services of Sha'ar Zahav as you consider your dues commitment for 1985-86. Our growth, is, in part, dependent upon the level of your financial support. If you have questions about your dues, feel free to contact Betty, either through the synagogue office or at her office, 221-2265.

Each year our involvement in the Union of American Hebrew Congregations becomes more meaningful and important as we continue to use more and more of their programs and information. This year we have a wonderful opportunity to increase our participation. The UAHC Biennial Convention will take place in Los Angeles from October 31 to November 5. The congregation will be sending an official delegation of 6 people, but any interested member is welcomed and encouraged to attend. UAHC requires that all attendees register through their synagogues. The registration fee is \$150.00. Anyone who is interested in attending or receiving more information should contact me before the end of this month. Don't forget... the Sha'ar Zahav Ensemble will be singing for the Convention.

I hope that many of you had the opportunity to march with us or see our group at this year's Gay/Lesbian Freedom Day Parade. For me, it was a wonderful way to begin the new year. It was especially joyful because it was a fitting way to welcome Rabbi Kahn and his lover Dan Bellm. After the parade ended many of us spent the balance of our day staffing and kibbitzing at our two booths. I want to express my thanks to Shirley Liberman and Chuck Norton, CSZ Parade Co-chairs, and to all the others who worked so hard to make June 30th such a fine day for everyone, especially Bill Ashley-Dobbin, George Lucas, Tom Rothgeisser and Frank Hyman.

By now many of you have had an opportunity to meet Rabbi Kahn or you may have been present in July when he led a Friday

night and a Saturday morning service. Some members have asked about the Rabbi's frequency of participation in services and other activities. The Rabbinic job description (which was published in the March 1984 issue of *The Forward*) indicated a part-time position. Part-time is currently being expressed as 2/3 time. Within the available time, Rabbi Kahn will be involved in ritual, education, social action, pastoral counseling and community activities (in no particular order). We at CSZ have a long history of a participatory pulpit. This will not be changing; our



members will share responsibility for conducting services with the Rabbi. Those who may wish to learn about leading services may now do so with the help of Rabbi Kahn.

Next month we plan to examine other aspects of the growing relationship between our congregation and Rabbi Kahn. Shalom,

Don

**Gay? Lesbian?
Jewish?
Not a member of
Sha'ar Zahav?**

A SCHANDE!



High Holiday Calendar

Erev Rosh Hashanah

Sunday, September 15
Services, 7:30 p.m.

First Day Rosh Hashanah

Monday, September 16
Services, 10:00 a.m.

(We will hold Second Day Rosh Hashanah Services at our own synagogue. Times will be announced.)

Kol Nidre Service

Tuesday, September 24
Services, 7:30 p.m.

Yom Kippur

Wednesday, September 25
Morning Service, 10:00 a.m.
Yizkor and Concluding Service,
6:00 p.m.

All services to be held at Unitarian Center, Franklin & Geary Streets.

Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Parade

It was really great fun to be there. Great thanks and kudos go to all those behind-the-scene volunteers who helped to energetically make our participation in this year's Freedom Day Parade and Celebration so successful. Financially we broke even, but everyone felt that our presence and visibility justified the effort, again showing our committed involvement in community activities.

Under our new Congregation banner, about one hundred members and friends joined in the Sha'ar Zahav contingent together with Rabbi Yoel Kahn marching along Market Street to Civic Center. Steve Greenberg led us in song, and everyone looked resplendent in their new Sha'ar Zahav t-shirts!

Enormous thanks are due to everyone involved, especially to the co-chairs Shirley Liberman and Chuck Norton, and for the energies of George Lucas, Tom Rothgeisser, Irene Ogus, Rosalinda del Moral, Tiela Chalmers, Bill Ashley-Dobbin, David Wasserman, Frank Hyman, Betty Kalis, Bernard Pechter, and each of our members who staffed both of the busy booths for the entire day. Also, a special thanks for the support and encouragement from our new President, Don Albert.

—Shirley Liberman, Coordinator



New Treasurer Appointed

At the June 28th installation of new officers and Va'ad members, there was one conspicuous absence—CSZ's Treasurer for the upcoming year. We are pleased to announce that at the July Va'ad meeting, President Don Albert presented the name of Betty Kalis to the Board for consideration for this position. The Board was pleased to unanimously vote to appoint Betty to that position effective immediately. Congratulations Betty! All members who were used to hearing from David Stein regularly in the guise of Treasurer can now look forward to regular communications from and with Betty.

AIDS Food Drive Update

Now in its second year, our Food Drive for the SF AIDS Foundation is continuing, and we are still able to make weekly deliveries to the Foundation office for use in their residence program. Let's keep filling the collection baskets located in the Oneg Room with dry or canned foods, household items and toiletries—especially those items not covered by food stamps. If you bring just an item or two each week to Friday night services, it will help our brothers immensely.



From the Rabbi

No one could ask for a warmer welcome than I have received from the members of Sha'ar Zahav. Everyone I have met has expressed enthusiasm and excitement. While it is true that *kol hatchalot kashot*—all beginnings are difficult, I appreciate the contributions so many people have made to ease this beginning. I look forward to meeting and getting to know all of the members of CSZ. If we have not met yet, please introduce yourself to me after services on a Friday evening. I have set up "drop-in" office hours one afternoon a week for brief meetings and for people to come by to chat. Please call the office for the hours or to schedule an appointment for another time.



Most of the programs and activities of the Synagogue fall into either of two general categories: internal—those activities which are primarily for the congregation, and external—the many different aspects of the Synagogue's outreach. Both of these dimensions are central to the mission of our Synagogue. In this column, I will briefly discuss the internal and external activities of the Synagogue and how I anticipate participating in each.

The word I have heard most commonly used to describe Sha'ar Zahav is "mishpocha" family. The Congregation is an extended family to its members. For many, the Synagogue family provides the support, caring and ongoing loyal relationships that our biological families cannot or will not give. Another term which describes our Synagogue is "community."

We are a voluntary gathering of people with common values and ideals. Our community members are responsible and responsive to one another. It is as a family/community that our activities assume their special significance.

The family/community comes together to worship. We pray together in a minyan because there is a holiness found in the community which the individual does not know alone. For us, there is a special sanctity in the communal prayer of openly gay and lesbian Jews. The Synagogue is also a gathering and meeting place. We come on Shabbat and other occasions to meet new people and to maintain contact with those we already know. The Synagogue can be a haven in a too-often alienating and lonely world.

Besides its role as meeting place, house of worship and communal/family home, the Synagogue is a house of study. Study is a life-long occupation for Jews. Many come with little or no knowledge of Judaism and wish to start at the beginning. Others have come to CSZ after a lifetime of study. It is my hope that everyone at Sha'ar Zahav will have ample opportunity to increase their learning. The Education Committee is working with me to prepare plans for an exciting variety of formal and informal educational programs during the coming year. One of the exciting qualities of Sha'ar Zahav for me is the interest so many people have already expressed in studying—I look forward to learning together.

With the Ritual Committee, I will be sharing the leadership of the Congregation's services. I will be working closely

with the Ritual Committee and other service leaders to improve the quality and increase the sanctity of our Shabbat and holiday worship. I am available to work with anyone in the Congregation who is interested in planning and leading services. If you have been thinking about offering, but just haven't felt ready, do not hesitate further! Please speak to me or any member of the Ritual Committee. Together with the Bikkur Cholim Committee, I will be involved in meeting other special needs of our congregational family.



While the term is much in vogue, "outreach" is an accurate description of the many different activities of the synagogue designed to bring our message to other people. Our Synagogue's outreach encompasses the same goals as those of all other synagogues in our movement and, in addition, includes many other groups mandated by CSZ's special mission.

The very existence of Sha'ar Zahav is an important statement. We are simultaneously an *Or l'goyim*—a light unto the nations bearing witness to Judaism's eternal teachings and an *Or l'Yehudim*—a light unto the Jews testifying to the possibility and realization of rich and

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Operation Moses

(Continued from page 1)

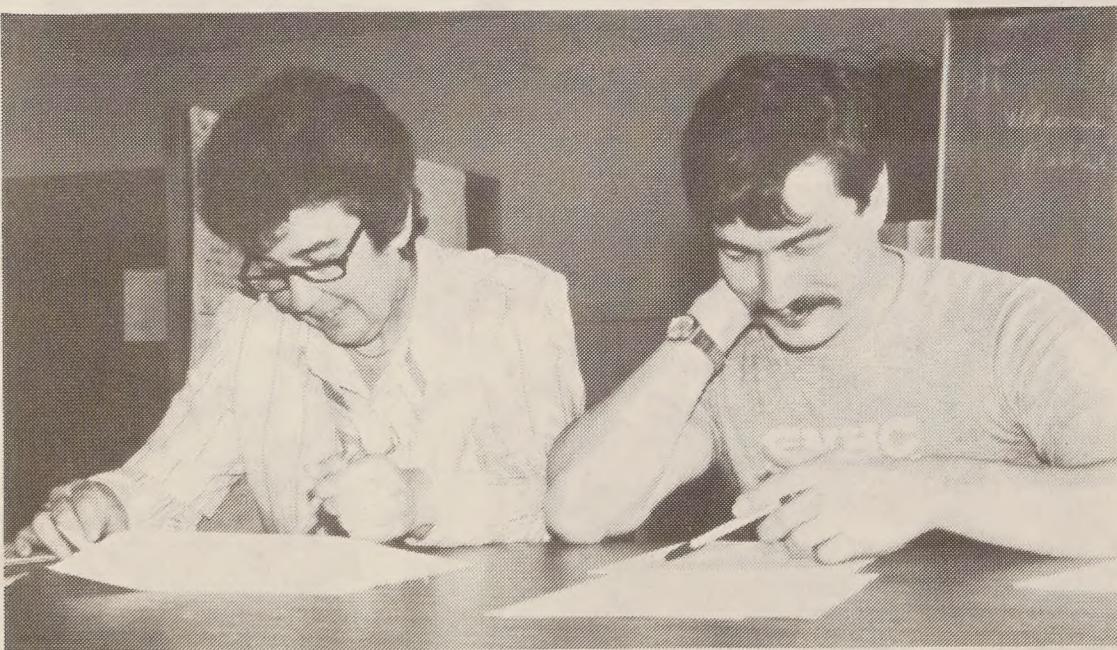
and were publicly thanked like everyone else.

Now we're at a new stage in our relationship with the Federation. Ron Kaufman, this year's president, has made it very clear that he wants gay and lesbian Jews involved at all levels and in all activities of the Federation, not just the telethon. He is coming to services at our synagogue on August 16th to tell us so, as well as to show the film.

There was a time not too many years ago when we Jews had to "prove" ourselves to the larger community. Those days are gone forever. And Baruch haShem, the days when gay men and women have to prove their integrity and worth are disappearing as well. It's nice to know that Sha'ar Zahav has helped that process along.

Come join us on the 16th! Help us celebrate the Sabbath, the rescue of the Ethiopian Jews, and our new, mature partnership with the Jewish Federation.

—Mike Rankin



Reading the fine print.

Va'ad Report

Chaired by our new President, the July Va'ad meeting was held on Monday, July 8th. Rabbi Kahn provided the D'var Torah. Action items from the President's Report included the nomination and appointment of Betty Kalis as Treasurer for the upcoming year, and the establishment of a Personnel Committee to provide both the Rabbi and Administrator with ongoing supervisorial relationships. Allan Gold, Irene Ogus and the President, currently Don Albert, will sit on that committee.

Outgoing Treasurer David Stein presented his final review of the Congregation's financial status, complete with analyses of various activities and thanks to those who helped him carry on. Differences between budgeted and actual expenditures pertain to the hiring of maintenance personnel, much higher-than-projected utilities costs and roof repairs. The greatest savings in expenditures came from the lack of an actual rabbinic salary. The Va'ad discussed our many community activities, such as the High Holy Days observances, Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day food booth, and Purim Pageants, and the need to more carefully consider their cost/benefit for our congregation's limited resources. Although other projects such as raffles help financially, serious evaluation of our many programs will need to be undertaken by the Va'ad over the coming year.

Rabbi Kahn reported that while he develops his role within our congregation he will maintain drop-in office hours as well as by appointment. Information about his hours can be obtained by calling the office.

Our Ensemble will sing at the UAHC national conference in Los Angeles later this year. Arrangements also have been made so that they can sing at Beth Chayim Chadashim, our sister congregation. Our three delegates, Don Albert, Leslie Bergson, and Mike Rankin, and three alternates, Cheryl Orvis, David Stein, and Rabbi Kahn, were selected.

Old Business included an evaluation of our Gay Day activities by Co-Chair Shirley Liberman. There was some discussion concerning the valve to the Synagogue of maintaining both food and information booths at the Civic Center. This will be examined further.

New business before the Va'ad included a preliminary report from the Finance Committee on various options for financing the renovation of the second floor.

Next month they are to present the Va'ad with specific recommendations for a fund-raising campaign so that the work can proceed quickly. Dana Vinicoff, our World Congress delegate, gave a detailed report on the decisions from the Congress's Board of Directors June meeting.

The Va'ad approved Aaron Cooper's proposal that our Congregation join other West Coast congregations in developing a regional conference for 1986. The date has been set for Rabbi Kahn's installation—August 24th.

Frank Hyman will once again chair our High Holy Days efforts. He will need several people to coordinate ushers and onegs. Volunteers should contact him or Marilyn. The Women's Havurah is exploring the possibility for child care arrangements. Allan Gold has again offered the use of his home for our Succot celebration.

Committee Reports: David Gellman reported the Torah crowns are now replaced. We are also getting bids for reroofing the building. Ritual Committee recently met with the Rabbi and had a most productive session. They are now planning the High Holy Day Services. Bikkur Cholim has a meeting with the Rabbi planned. By-Laws will be reassessing those issues they plan to present at the next Congregational Meeting. Ron Lezell requested an honorarium for the Bay Area Council for Soviet Jews as a thank-you for their wonderful presentation and mentioned that we hope to have Dr. Mervyn Silverman as a speaker in the coming months. Sharyn Saslawsky reported that some 100 press releases have been sent out informing the local media about our new Rabbi. *The Jewish Bulletin*, among others, will soon be interviewing him for articles. Ads for the

upcoming holidays are ready for publication. Shmata requested that we contribute an article on AIDS for its next issue, which has been written by Mike Rankin.

Finally, it was noted that it is a mitzvah to make donations to the Rabbi's Discretionary Fund in honor of his installation.

—Marilyn Hertzberg,
Acting Recorder

Office Notes

The Jewish Calendar 5746 datebook will be available for purchase through the Synagogue again this year. Please call the office to reserve your copy now. They will be \$7.00 apiece.

A Kashrut Reminder—When you bring foodstuffs into the shul, especially into the kitchen, please check ingredients. Although we all know to leave "forbidden fruits" like shellfish and pork at the door, sometimes it's hard to tell whether a food product is kosher from just its outward appearance. For example, many prepackaged crackers and cookies are baked with lard (animal fat). That too is a no-no. So make like Sherlock Holmes when buying food for synagogue functions.

Traveling during HHD? Any member who plans to be out of town during High Holy Days and would like to find a local congregation to worship with should please contact the office as soon as possible. Every year, the UAHC provides a referral service so that no member of a UAHC congregation should be without High Holy Day services in the U.S. or Canada.

—Marilyn Hertzberg, Administrator

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GREAT CITY
REALTORS

World Congress Report

The Board of Directors of the World Congress of Gay and Lesbian Jewish Organizations met at the Omni Shoreham Hotel in Washington, D.C., on June 5 and 6. Sha'ar Zahav was one of the 14 out of 19 member organizations represented, including delegates from London and Amsterdam. The meetings were held in conjunction with the 9th International Conference of Gay and Lesbian Jews.

Business discussed included a decision to reapply to the Chicago Resources Center for a grant to help finance expansion of the World Congress Digest and to fund a brochure advertising the World Congress Speakers' Bureau.

The organization will begin procedures to formally incorporate as a non-profit organization to secure the appropriate tax benefits. New bylaws amendments will allow more freedom in the nomination of candidates for office by member organizations.

A new category of "friend" was created to allow individual membership (for those not affiliated with an organization). For a donation of \$18, friends' benefits will include a subscription to the Digest. A new dues structure for member organizations was also established. Future budgets will for the first time also include a line to offset the travel costs of World Congress staff members.

This summer, readers of *The Advocate* and Ms. magazine will see a new World Congress ad, to be funded by the members organizations.

Another resolution encouraged member organizations to organize regional con-

ferences in 1986. Sha'ar Zahav has voted to endorse this proposal and will be meeting with other West Coast groups (San Diego to Vancouver) to explore this possibility.

The International Conference which followed was kicked off by a warm welcome from Washington Mayor Marion Barry, and a keynote address from U.S. Representative Barney Frank. Workshop topics included creative liturgy, parenting, women and men together and apart and Jewish music. Bet Mishpachah, the host congregation, arranged for a tour of Washington and many participants elected to join in vigils at the Soviet and South African embassies.

The 1986 meeting of the Board will be held in Boston, and it was decided that the 1987 meeting and the 10th International Conference will be held in Amsterdam. This decision was based partly on a desire to reaffirm the international nature of the organization, and partly in response to an offer of support from the Dutch government.

—Dana Vinicoff, Delegate

Mysticism & Dance

On Sunday, August 25, Lillie Rachmany will be leading a workshop on Mysticism and Dance, at the Synagogue, from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. This is the fourth and final workshop in CSZ's series of Mysticism Workshops. There will be a small registration fee. For more information and to register, call Marilyn at the office.



Ritual Calendar

Friday, August 2

Shabbat Nachamu

Parshah: Va-etchanan,

Deut. 3:23-7:11

Haftarah: Isaiah 40:1-26

Garry Koenigsberg, Services

Friday, August 9

Parshah: Ekev, Deut. 7:12-11:25

Haftarah: Isaiah 49:14-51:3

Jon Funk and Eric Keitel, Services

Rabbi Yoel Kahn, Sermon

Friday, August 16

Rosh Chodesh Elul

Parshah: Re'eh, Deut. 11:26-16:17

Special Parshah: Num. 28:9-15

Special Haftarah: Isaiah 66:1-24

Mike Rankin, Services

Friday, August 23

Parshah: Shofetim,

Deut. 16:18-21:9

Haftarah: Isaiah 51:12-52:12

Ritual Committee & Friends, Services

Saturday, August 24

Installation of Rabbi Yoel Kahn

10:30 a.m.

Friday, August 30

Parshah: Ki Tetze,

Deut. 21:10-25:19

Haftarah: Isaiah 54:1-10

Rabbi Yoel Kahn, Services

Saturday, August 31

Saturday Morning Services,

10:30 a.m.

Rabbi Yoel Kahn, Services

September Preview

Friday, September 6

Parshah: Ki Tavo, Deut. 26:1-29:8

Haftarah: Isaiah 60:1-22

Leslie Bergson and Eric Keitel, Services

Saturday, September 7

S'lichot Service, 10:30 p.m.

(See article)

Friday, September 13

Parshah: Nitzavim,

Deut. 29:9-30:20

Haftarah: Isaiah 61:10-63:9

Paul Cohen, Services

Friday night services begin at 8:15 in the sanctuary of our synagogue, located at 220 Danvers at Caselli in San Francisco.

AUGUST

אָב - אַלְלוֹל

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				14 Av Services 8:15 p.m.	15	2 16 3
17	4	18	5	19	6	20
Women's Havurah BBQ/Pool Party noon, 837-8796		Torah Study 7-10 p.m.		SVELTE, 7 p.m.	Newsletter Comm.	Services 8:15 p.m.
24	11	25	12	26	13	27
Softball Game/Picnic Julius Kahn Playground 11:00 a.m.		Va'ad Meeting 6:30 p.m. Torah Study 7-10 p.m. Newsletter Deadline		Soviet Vigil Green & Baker 11:30 a.m. SVELTE, 7 p.m.	14	28
1 Elul	18	2	19	3	20	4
Rosh Chodesh II		Torah Study 7-10 p.m.		SVELTE, 7 p.m.	21	5
8	25	9	26	10	27	11
Mysticism Workshop Dance Lillie Rachmany 1-5 p.m.		Torah Study 7-10 p.m.		SVELTE, 7 p.m.	28	12
					29	13
					Services 8:15 p.m.	30
						14
						31
						Morning Services 10:30 a.m.

Behind the Scenes

Many tasks get done quietly at the Synagogue and thanks never appear in a regular committee report.

In June, the Congregation took space in the Gay/Lesbian Parade magazine to express our pride and joy to the community. Our thanks to Sharyn Saslafsky, and her consultants David Stein and Alex Ingersoll.

On the day of the parade, Sha'ar Zahav marched under a new banner, which was designed by Alex Ingersoll, with the assistance of Stephanie Hannaford and Marilyn O'Keefe. Don Albert did all the legwork to see that it was made.

Sha'ar Zahav's High Holy Day ad will soon be appearing in many newspapers. It was completely redesigned this year by chief PR person Sharyn Saslafsky, with graphic work by Stephanie Hannaford. Our regular ad, appearing monthly in *Coming Up*, is currently being redesigned by the same team.

Our thanks to all.

Support A Fund — Any Fund

Sha'ar Zahav's health is founded on a good spiritual and fiscal base. The Finance Committee wishes to remind all members and friends of the Congregation of the various funds that are available for your support. Any reason is a good reason for contributions: a birthday, anniversary, yahrzeit, simcha, etc., etc. You may specify which fund your gift is to be dedicated to. Our funds are:

The General Fund: underwrite the ongoing activities and committee programs of the Congregation.

The Building Fund: mortgage payments and building improvements.

The Education Fund: cover the costs of teachers for classes, books and learning materials, film programs, lecturer stipends, etc.

Contributions are acknowledged by letter and in *The Forward*, and the person being honored also receives a card announcing the gift. All donations to Sha'ar Zahav are tax deductible.

The Harvey Milk Social Action Fund: contributions to social causes that the Synagogue wishes to lend support to—for example, aid to the Falashas, Soviet Jewry, National March for Lesbian and Gay Rights.

The Library Fund: development of a reference library for our Congregation.

The Phooey on AIDS Fund: assistance of members and friends diagnosed with AIDS and is also used to support AIDS-related educational and humanitarian projects in our community.

The Prayer Book Fund: underwrite the costs of writing, revising and publishing our prayerbooks.

The Torah Fund: purchase of a new torah and adornments for our Congregation.

Contributions

Sha'ar Zahav Welcomes all contributions, of all sizes, to mark any event, and to any of our funds. Contributions will be acknowledged in *The Forward* unless requested otherwise.

Donations were made to Sha'ar Zahav's funds in the past month by the following contributors:

For the Prayerbook Fund—

Allan Berenstein, in memory of his grandmothers, Perel Berenstein and Sadie Radetsky

For the Social Action Fund—

Cheryl Orvis, in honor of Allyce Kimerling and Mike Freedland's birthdays, Aunt Yente, Nanci Stern and the publication of her book, and Bill Ashley-Dobbin and Joan Blazewick

For the AIDS Fund—

Mark Mendelow

Elliot Schneck

Ruth and George Feldman, in memory of their son Mark

Cheryl Orvis, in remembrance of Mark Feldman and the Candlelight March

Richard Parker and Associates, in memory of David Goodstein, founder and publisher of *The Advocate*

For the General Fund—

Nina Wouk, in memory of her Grandmother, Eclia Brown Borachoff

Garry Koenigsberg, in honor of Leila Raim and her extra step!

Jerry Rosenstein

Elliott Toporek, on behalf of the Brotherhood

Ron Lezell, in memory of Joan Blazewick's father

Allan Berenstein, in memory of Joan Blazewick's father, Bill Owen's father, and Chuck Norton's nephew

Nanci Stern and Leslie Bergson, in memory of Joan Blazewick's father

Don Albert, as thanks to Shirley Liberman and Chuck Norton for their work as Co-Chairs of our Gay Day activities

For the Torah Fund—

Jerry Sachs, in honor of the election of the new officers

Steve Elman, in honor of Ben Schalit's birthday and chanting from the Torah

Justin, Matt and Allan Berenstein, in honor of their grandparents/parents respectively

For the Rabbi's Discretionary Fund—

Allan Berenstein, in honor of the ordination of Rabbi Yoel Kahn
Mark Mendelow, to welcome the Rabbi to our Congregation

Don Albert, in memory of his friend Steven Koenigsberg, in honor of Leila Raim and the retiring officers and Va'ad members, in honor of our new Rabbi, Yoel Kahn, wishing a speedy recovery to Kurt Stutzman, and in honor of the wedding of Judy Schmidt and Ari Levy

Judith and David Woodruff
Daniel and Joan Burkhard

For the Library Fund—

Sam Thal, in honor of Frank Hyman's birthday and for hosting the Newsletter mailing group every month
Joan Blazewick, as thanks to those who witnessed her conversion: Rabbi Ben Marcus, Terry Rothchild, David Stein, and Daniel Chesir

Oneg Sponsors

During the month of June, Friday night Onegs were sponsored by the following generous persons:

June 7—Nancy Meyer, Ron Lezell, Bruce Katz & Paul Cohen, in memory of Duff Kreitzberg

June 14—The Va'ad, in honor of the Congregation

June 21—The Ritual Committee and Nanci Stern, to honor Leslie Bergson for her efforts as the Ritual Committee Chair and for her new responsibilities as Vice President, respectively

June 28—Steven and Susan Unger, in honor of the Installation of the new Officers and Va'ad members, the arrival of our new Rabbi, and in honor of Susan and Rhonda's 5th anniversary

All you have to do to sponsor an Oneg is to think of the occasion and contact the synagogue office (861-6932). The cost of sponsoring an Oneg is \$50 (partial sponsorship available) or you can also provide the food, flowers, etc. for a more personal touch.

Magnes News

"White City: International Style Architecture in Israel" is the summer exhibit at the Judah L. Magnes Museum in Berkeley. Running until October 20, this exhibit focuses on the Israeli version of the 20th century architectural style known as the International Style. An historical survey of documentary photographs, plans and models is combined with the architectural photographs of Judith Turner.

Magnes Museum is located at 2911 Russell Street (near the Claremont) and is open Sunday through Thursday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information, call 849-2710.

August Yahrzeits

- 1 Margaret Buddell, Grandmother of Abigail Abbuehl
- 1 Sadie Katz Built, Great-aunt of Bruce Katz
- 3 (16 Av) Louis Wouk, Grandfather of Nina Wouk
- 4 Madelyn Gross Walters, Mother of Stephen Walters
- 10 Celia Katz, Grandmother of Bruce Katz
- 12 Abraham Fishman, Husband of Isabel Fishman
- 13 (26 Av) Kosel Heilbrunn, Grandmother of Randy Heilbrunn
- 15 Samuel Minsky, Grandfather of Mike Rankin
- 16 Frank Abts, Father of Michael Abts
- 20 Arthur H. Klein, Father of Elliott Klein
- 26 Anne Kurtz, Friend of Chaya Spector
- 28 (11 Elul) Maurice Ash, Father of Terry Rothchild
- 29 Bessie Bloom Minsky, Grandmother of Mike Rankin

Note: Yahrzeits will be read at services on the Friday preceding the Yahrzeit date.

Classified Ads

SAN ANSELMO HILLS—Spacious studio in private hillside chalet. Trees, views, hot tub in gardens. Your own private apartment w/full bath. \$575/mo. Call Bob Rose 459-6141, a.m. best.

BEGINNING YOGA CLASSES at Sha'ar Zahav. Alignment, breath awareness, guided relaxation. Wednesdays, 6:30-8 p.m. PWA encouraged. Call Rob Villacari, 864-1141.

JEWISH IDENTITY ISSUES. Experienced Feminist counselor. Individuals, relationships and groups. Susan Greenspan, M.A. 821-3837. San Francisco.

From the Rabbi (Continued from page 4)

fulfilled Jewish life as gays and lesbians. Together with our sibling congregations in the UAHC and the World Congress, we share an obligation to the many lesbian and gay Jews who still do not know we are here and to educate the rest of the organized Jewish community to welcome our brothers and sisters amongst them.

It gave me great pleasure to march in the Freedom Day Parade as my first act as Rabbi of Sha'ar Zahav. I expect to be active in meeting, and teaching in, the larger community—Jewish and general, straight and gay—about Sha'ar Zahav, gay and lesbian Jews and our place in the Jewish community. I will also be working with the Social Action Committee to bring your attention to important matters of public concern and to involve the members of the congregation in taking action when appropriate.



It is erroneous to label any one program or activity at Sha'ar Zahav as exclusively "internal" or "external." Shabbat and holiday services are our most basic "internal" activity but also our most important form of outreach. Nor is the "infrastructure" of the Congregation (the Finance, Membership, Building and other committee) simply "internal." It is impossible to separate what we do "for ourselves" and what we do "for others." Both are inextricably linked within the mission of the Synagogue.

Martin Buber taught about the responsibility of the individual to fulfill the Torah's teaching: "Realization begins in the individual and is fulfilled in the life of the community." So, too, the synagogue is engaged in building true community within, and sharing in the labor of repairing the larger community beyond. I look forward to joining with you in laboring, celebrating, worship and learning—our sacred tasks.

—Rabbi Yoel Kahn

Softball Game & Picnic

Make no mistake—Sunday, August 11th is the date of Sha'ar Zahav's time-honored semi-regular Gala Softball Game and Picnic. All members, friends and family of CSZ are not only invited but are urged to participate in some aspect of this multi-media event.

This event has always been lots of fun. (Ed. note: All of the coach's previously submitted jokes relating to this event have been deleted from this month's announcement for reasons of taste. Be there to hear more of them in person.)

As usual the game will be held at Julius Kahn Playground in the Presidio, with festivities beginning at 11:00 a.m. So plan on bringing a picnic lunch and a baseball mitt (if you have one). Bats, balls, bases and a charcoal grill will be provided. Hope to see you there.

Directions: Enter the Presidio through the Arguello Gate. Make an immediate sharp right and follow the wall down to the bottom of the hill. The picnic area and playing field are to the left.

—Ron Lezell, Head Coach

August Birthdays!

1	Ed L.
3	Barry Miguel
4	Jonathan Funk
7	John Golebowski
9	Allan Gold
12	David Glassberg
14	Carole Migden
16	Chaya Spector
16	Lee Vogel
18	Max Z.
19	Dan Bellm
19	Paul Cohen
23	Frank Hyman
23	Michael Lipson
30	Marilyn Miller
30	Shelley Spiro

Hebrew Course

City College has scheduled classes in conversational Hebrew at its Castro-Valencia site, Everett Middle School, 450 Church Street at 16th. Registration and placement in beginning or intermediate levels can be arranged the first night of classes, August 22nd. Classes begin at 6:30 p.m., although early arrival the first night is encouraged. Ben Hary, a member of Congregation Ahavat Shalom, has been scheduled to teach the classes, and another instructor may be added if the initial enrollment is large enough. Fees for the classes are \$15 or \$10 (depending on placement) for California residents, and \$258 or \$172 for non-residents. For additional information, call 239-3585.

Women's Havurah August Pool Party

The Women's Havurah will be gathering at noon on Sunday, August 4th, for our Summer BBQ and Pool Party at Betty and Marion's home in Danville. All the women of the Congregation are invited to attend and to bring friends. Please bring something to grill and a side dish to share. For more information, call Betty at 837-2856 or Allyce at 863-8796 (office)

—Allyce Kimerling, Chair

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So Ask Aunt Yente

Dear Aunt Yente,

Shouldn't your synagogue take itself more seriously? Back in Queens, when we said the *Borchu*, it was a solemn chant; here, you sing *la la la!* And at Purim, you even make fun of a Jewish service! How can you consider yourself a real synagogue when you are not serious about your religion?

Oysgemitchit in Orinda

Dear Oysgemitchit,

Aunt Yente thanks you for your interest in our services. She is particularly glad that you realize that our Purim parody service was a parody; some people thought that it was simply part of our new liturgy, and asked why we didn't use it on Kol Nidre night ("It's so much shorter!") But frankly, before you get too oysgemitchit, you need to look a little harder at the religion you and Aunt Yente (she hopes) share.

The idea of having a parody service on Purim, for example, did not begin with Sha'ar Zahav. The custom is very old; there are written versions of such mishegas from the 1500's. (No, Aunt Yente didn't write them; she was just a child back then.) It's not only services that have been made fun of; there is also a tradition of congregations choosing a "Purim Rabbi" to read from the "Purim Torah." You can just imagine. So what Sha'ar Zahav does on Purim is well within the Jewish tradition (and in more ways than one: Our parody services, like the book of Esther itself, are careful not to use God's name.)

The *Borchu* tune that we use on Friday nights is also traditional. If it sounds unusual to you, this is probably because it is from the Sephardic tradition (that of Jews from the Mediterranean and African areas), rather than the Ashkenazi (European) one, which might be to you more familiar. If you want Aunt Yente's opinion (and even if you don't), it is a beautiful melody, by far the nicest for *Borchu* that she knows. And so it's too cheerful? As far as your Aunt Yente is concerned, when the week is over and Aunt Yente can gather with all her friends, and we all stand together to praise God, Aunt Yente is very cheerful, and she wants to sing *la la la*. Wanna make something of it?

(Continued on page 11)



Simchas!

Birthdays of all members are published in *The Forward*, but now we would like to be able to acknowledge other *simchas* as well, especially anniversaries. If you would like your Sha'ar Zahav family to know about such happy occasions, please drop a note to Marilyn in the office with the relevant details.

We hope that this will be a regular column, and fortunately we're able to start it off this month with congratulations to **Leila Raim** and **Catherine Wisniewski** who are celebrating their 10th Anniversary on August 1st. *Mazel Tov!*

Whoops

I goofed! When I was preparing the President's Award and Honors column for the July issue of *The Forward* I made the mistake that we all fear making when preparing such a listing of names... one got left out. Oy Veh! My handwritten list of those receiving Certificates of Appreciation was correct, but my transcription skills were not and so our typesetter did not get the name of one V.S.P. (Very Special Person): **Tom Rothgeisser!** Thank you, Tom, not only for your good work and dedication, but for your willingness to understand and forgive my error.

—Leila Raim

Vigil for Soviet Jewry

Sha'ar Zahav is continuing to work with the Bay Area Council on Soviet Jewry to maintain a protest vigil in front of the Soviet Consulate at Green and Baker. Our time slot is always the second Wednesday of the month, so this month we're on for Wednesday, August 14 from 11:30 a.m. to noon. Placards are provided.

—Ron Lezell, Chair
Social Action Committee

Remember

to keep us up to date.
If you've moved, changed
your name, have a new
phone number, or wish to
add a listing to our
yahrzeit or anniversary
records, please call or
write the synagogue
office.

Aunt Yente

(Continued from page 10)

You shouldn't think Aunt Yente is angry at you. Aunt Yente saves her anger for that small but vocal minority of teachers and parents and clergy who deliver the message that religion is always long faces, and solemn chants, and sitting up straight. Aunt Yente agrees that this mood is sometimes necessary. On Yom Kippur, for example, we look at our past and our future; it's not exactly time for giggling. Aunt Yente will even admit that in having fun, there is sometimes danger of losing sight of the serious: If Chanukah becomes only a happy children's holiday, when do we think about the responsibility to be free and our duty of revolution?

But to people who teach that religion is only, or even primarily, solemn or sentimental, Aunt Yente says phooey. We say in the *v'ohavto* that we must love God, not only with heart and soul, but with our whole being. So either our fun-loving, humorous side must become part of the way we serve God, or we must suppress that side altogether. We are not allowed to have parts of our life that we are ashamed to share with God. But show Aunt Yente where it is written that we are not supposed to be happy, or to have fun. Aunt Yente could show you (if you had only included a return address) where it is written "*Ivdu es ashem b'simchoh; bou l'fohnov birnohnoh*"—serve God with rejoicing; come before God with la la la's." (If you don't like the translation, so you can write your own; but that's what it means.)

Aunt Yente hopes that our synagogue never loses its sense of joy in our religion, and never loses sight of the sometimes humorous aspects of the struggle of the human towards the divine. (A few pounds, maybe, we could lose; but Aunt Yente is giving herself permission to wait until after the holidays. Which holidays? Don't ask.)

Aunt Yente

Aunt Yente will answer all your questions about Jewish law and ritual matters. Just write to Aunt Yente in care of *The Forward*, 220 Danvers at Caselli, San Francisco, CA 94114. Only a limited number of questions can be answered in *The Forward*, so if you want a personal answer, please include a stamped, self-addressed envelope. All material © 1985 Congregation Sha'ar Zahav.

High Holiday Services Participation

Planning for the High Holidays is already underway, and the Congregation would once again like to provide an opportunity for all members to participate in High Holiday services. We will be assigning readings in English and Hebrew at the various services. Only those members who return this form to us by Thursday, August 15th can be assured an opportunity to participate.

Please return this form to Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, 220 Danvers at Caselli, San Francisco, CA 94114 by Thursday, August 15th.

Name of Member _____

Telephone(s) _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

I would like to participate at:

Rosh Hashanah

- Sunday evening, September 15
- Monday morning (Shacharit), September 16
- Monday late morning (Musaf), September 16

Yom Kippur

- Tuesday evening (Kol Nidre), September 24
- Wednesday morning (Shacharit), September 25
- Wednesday late morning (Musaf), September 25
- Wednesday late afternoon (Yizkor), September 25
- Wednesday late afternoon (Neilah), September 25
- Any service
- I can read Hebrew well
- I would like to learn a Hebrew chant

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220 Danvers at Caselli, San Francisco, California 94114

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(415) 861-6932

Officers:

President, Don Albert
Vice President, Leslie Bergson
Treasurer, Betty Kalis
Recorder, Richard Inlander

Rabbi: Yoel Kahn. Please contact the Synagogue Office regarding Rabbi Kahn's schedule and availability for counseling.

Va'ad (Board) Members:

Alex Ingersoll
Allyce Kimerling
Garry Koenigsberg
Shirley Liberman
Irene Oguis
Cheryl Orvis
Mike Rankin
Jerry Rosenstein
Sharyn Saslafsky

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Building, David Gellman
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Social Action, Ron Lezell
Women's Havurah, Allyce Kimerling

Data Managers:

Alita Rosenfeld
Jerry Rosenstein

Administrator:

Marilyn Hertzberg
The Synagogue Office is open Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, 2:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., and Friday, 10:00 a.m. to 1 p.m. At other times, please leave a phone message.

Emergency Number: In an emergency situation, the Congregation can be contacted outside of office hours by calling 864-0475 between 7:00 a.m. and 11:00 p.m.

Congregation Sha'ar Zahav is located in the Upper Market District of San Francisco at 220 Caselli at Danvers, which is one block south of the intersection of 18th & Market Streets. By public transport, take MUNI bus no. 33 (Ashbury line) to 18th & Danvers and walk one block south on Danvers to Caselli.

Services are held every Friday evening beginning at 8:15 p.m., with an Oneg Shabbat following services. Services are generally held on the last Saturday of each month at 10:30 a.m. – check calendar for each month.

Member: Union of American Hebrew Congregations and World Congress of Gay and Lesbian Jewish Organizations.



Continuity and Change

(Continued from page 1)

life that enriches us all. Different because of change, but similar in the continuity in a set of beliefs and principles.

"These are all examples of a series of events. The succession of ideas—continuity.

"With the support of our membership we can make a difference by providing a place where we can be ourselves in all respects. This is a place where others can look to for support, a place which is a living example of the dynamic result of continuity and change and above all a place in which we can all be proud."

All photos taken during the Parade were taken by Don Albert, Tiela Chalmers, Bob Goldware and Alex Ingersoll.

Congregation Sha'ar Zahav

שער זהב



Member, Union Of American Hebrew Congregations

220 Danvers at Caselli

San Francisco, California 94114

(415) 861-6932

The Social Action and Education Committees of
Congregation Sha'ar Zahav are pleased to present:

DR. MERVYN SILVERMAN

speaking on

"MEDICAL CARE AND POLITICS IN SAN FRANCISCO"

Monday, August 19th, 1985

7:00 p.m.

at the Synagogue

Dr. Silverman served as the Director of the Department of Public Health for San Francisco for approximately seven years. During his service, he presided over the City's response to the AIDS crisis which was more significant than in any other city in the United States. This response is evident in the funds for the care of patients, community education and in basic research.

Dr. Silverman's perspective and knowledge of the issues surrounding medical care and politics is unique. Please join us on the 19th for what promises to be a most informative program.

Requested Donation: Non-perishable food or \$5.00 for the Congregation's AIDS Food Drive

